

## Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 ADDIS 00137 110943Z

ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-07 COME-00 L-03 OPIC-03 TRSE-00

CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 OMB-01 AGRE-00 /030 W

-----111028Z 002329 /16

R 110806Z JAN 77

FM AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2253

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE ADDIS ABABA 00137

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: BBAK,ET

SUBJECT: KALAMAZOO SPICE

REF: 76 ADDIS 12647 AND PREVIOUS

1. ATO MAKONNEN HUNDE, GENERAL MANAGER, ETHIOPIAN SPICE, CALLED ON ECONOMIC/COMMERCIAL COUNSELOR JANUARY 10 TO RELATE RECENT DEVELOPMENTS BETWEEN ETHIOPIAN SPICE AND KALAMAZOO SPICE ON DECEMBER 31 IN WHICH IT MADE FIRM OFFER REGARDING PRICE AND QUANTITY OF PRODUCT, ETHIOPIAN COULD PROVIDE KALAMAZOO. AT CONCLUSION OF EXCHANGE KALAMAZOO REQUESTED A FEW DAYS BEFORE MAKING FINAL DECISION BECAUSE NO ONE "IN AUTHORITY" WAS AVAILABLE THAT DAY OWING TO NEW YEAR HOLIDAY. ON JANUARY 8 KALAMAZOO SENT ANOTHER TELEX INDICATING ITS WILLINGNESS TO BUY 25 TONS OF PRODUCT FOR DELIVERY IN MARCH. ATO MAKONNEN WAS SURPRISED AND DISAPPOINTED BY THE QUANTITY AS PREVIOUS CORRESPONDENCE HAD LED HIM TO BELIEVE THAT, AT A MINIMUM, KALAMAZOO WOULD BUY 50 TONS. CONSEQUENTLY, HE RESPONDED IMMEDIATELY BY TELEX TO THE EFFECT THAT EITHER KALAMAZOO WOULD HAVE TO BUY 50 TONS OR ETHIOPIAN WOULD NOT PROVIDE THEM WITH ANY PRODUCT. ON JANUARY 10 KALAMAZOO TELEXED THAT IT WOULD NOT BUY FROM ETHIOPIAN.

2. ATO MAKONNEN SAID HE WAS BRINGING THIS TO THE ATTENTION OF ECONOMIC/COMMERCIAL COUNSELOR IN ORDER TO "KEEP HIM INFORMED" OF DEVELOPMENTS. HE STATED THAT KALAMAZOO HAD MISLED HIM AND HAD LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 ADDIS 00137 110943Z

CONSISTANTLY REFUSED TO BELIEVE THE INFORMATION REGARDING PRICE AND CROP CONDITIONS HE HAD PROVIDED. ECONOMIC/COMMERCIAL COUNSELOR RESPONDED THAT THERE WAS LITTLE MORE THE EMBASSY COULD DO TO BE OF ASSISTANCE. WHILE KALAMAZOO MAY NOT TRUST INFORMATION PROVIDED BY ETHIOPIAN, HE POINTED OUT THAT, UNDER ORDINARY CIRCUMSTANCES, KALAMAZOO WOULD PROBABLY HAVE SENT A REPRESENTATIVE TO ETHIOPIA TO EXAMINE THE PRICE AND SUPPLY

SITUATION ON THE SPOT. BUT, GIVEN THE ETHIOPIAN GOVERNMENT'S POLICY OF NOT ALLOWING EXPATRIATES ASSOCIATED WITH COMPANIES HAVING DISPUTES WITH THE ETHIOPIAN GOVERNMENT TO LEAVE THE COUNTRY, KALAMAZOO PRESUMABLY DID NOT BELIEVE THAT IT COULD RISK A VISIT BY A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE FIRM TO ETHIOPIA. ATO MAKONNEN WAS NON-COMMITTAL CONCERNING THIS POINT.

3. COMMENT: THE FOREGOING IS PROVIDED FOR THE DEPARTMENT'S INFORMATION. WHILE KALAMAZOO SPICE MANAGEMENT'S BEHAVIOUR IS TO A CERTAIN EXTENT UNDERSTANDABLE GIVEN THEIR EXPERIENCE WITH NATIONALIZATION, AFTER REVIEWING TELEX EXCHANGE AND BEARING IN MIND PREVIOUS ACTIVITIES OF KALAMAZOO, EMBASSY BELIEVES THAT THEIR RELATIONS WITH ETHIOPIAN SPICE COULD HAVE BEEN BETTER HANDLED. EMBASSY RECOMMENDS THAT, AT LEAST FOR THE TIME BEING, DEPARTMENT AND EMBASSY MAINTAIN A VERY RESERVED POSTURE TOWARD KALAMAZOO AND ITS RELATIONSHIP WITH ETHIOPIAN, SHOULD KALAMAZOO APPROACH EITHER FOR FURTHER ASSISTANCE.  
TIENKEN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** n/a  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 11-Jan-1977 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977ADDIS00137  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D770010-0037  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** ADDIS ABABA  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1977/newtext/t19770165/aaaacejv.tel  
**Line Count:** 80  
**Litigation Code IDs:**  
**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Message ID:** ece4b6db-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION AF  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 76 ADDIS ABABA 12647  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 07-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 3629416  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** KALAMAZOO SPICE  
**TAGS:** BBAK, ET, (HUNDE, ATO MAKONNEN)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/ece4b6db-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009